



NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Regional Office / Fisheries Statistics Office



INITIAL VESSEL APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS
FOR NORTHEAST FEDERAL FISHERIES

In Sections 1 and 2, fill in ALL items:

Mail the completed application package to: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Permits Operations, 1 Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298. **No walk-in service is available.** There is a 30-day processing period for all application packages. This 30-day processing period begins when a **correct and complete** application package is received in the NMFS Permit Office. **Questions? Please refer to the NMFS Northeast Region Web Page at www.nero.nmfs.gov for applications, instructions, fisheries regulations, and other important information, or call 978-281-9278.**

SECTION 1: VESSEL/OWNER INFORMATION

Enter information in the spaces provided. ALL items must be completed.

Vessel Name: Current name of vessel, or enter “unnamed” if not applicable.

Owner Name: Include name **exactly** as it appears on the vessel ownership documentation (US Coast Guard Documentation, State Registration, or Title of Vessel Ownership). If the vessel is owned by a corporation, submit a **current** copy of documentation from the State of Incorporation verifying corporate status. If the vessel is owned by a partnership, submit a **current** copy of the Partnership agreement. (See Section 5 for additional documents required.)

Address and Telephone Number: Include 4-digit addition to zip code (if known) and area code for phone number.

Coast Guard Documentation or State Registration Number: You **must include a photocopy** of the vessel’s **current** US Coast Guard documentation or State registration in your application package. (See Section 5 for additional documents required.)

Hailing Port: City and State where vessel is moored.

Principal Port: City and State where the majority of your landings occur.

SECTION 2: VESSEL INFORMATION

Enter information in spaces provided. ALL items must be completed.

Vessel length: Overall length in feet.

Crew Size: Average number of crew, **including** the captain.

Gross Tonnage: As recorded on US Coast Guard Documentation.

Year Built: The year the vessel was built.

Main Engine HP: The vessel engine horsepower.

Fish Hold Capacity: Measured to the nearest 100 pounds.

Dredge Size: Dredge size in feet.

Number of Dredges: Total number of dredges aboard the vessel.

Pump Horsepower: This item applies to surf clam/ocean quahog vessels only.

Construction: 1=Wood, 2=Fiberglass, 3=Steel, 4=Other.

Propulsion: 1=Gasoline, 2=Diesel, 3=Other.

Number of Passengers for Charter or Party: Number of passengers the vessel is licensed to carry. (See Section 5 for additional documents required.)

SECTION 3: FISHERY INFORMATION

Except as noted for limited access fisheries, you may select a fishery, category, or gear code by entering the information in the spaces provided.

Category: For each fishery you want to add, select the category that best describes your fishing operations, and write the category numbers or letters in the column marked “**Category**”.

Gear Code: For each fishery, you must select the applicable gear codes from the Gear Code table below. Write the **gear code numbers** in the column marked "Gear Code". You may select more than one gear code for a category. **If no gear code is selected, the application can not be processed and will be returned to you.**

Gear Codes and Description

120 Purse Seines	330 Other Trawls	912 Rod and Reel
210 Beach Seines	410 Dredge	920 Longlines or Setlines
220 Boat Seines	700 Gill/Entangling Nets	1010 Harpoons
310 Bottom Trawls	800 Pots and Traps	1200 Other Gear
320 Mid-water Trawls	911 Hand Lines	1400 Diving Gear

DESCRIPTION OF NORTHEAST FISHERIES PERMITS – CATEGORIES (SHADED)

ATLANTIC SEA SCALLOP

Open Access Permit: Further restrictions may apply to this category. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

1	General: Possess or land no more than 400 lbs of shucked scallops, or 50 US bushels of in-shell scallops per trip (one trip per calendar day).
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Limited Access Permits: These permits may only be renewed by vessels that have previously held them or be issued only to approved replacements of such vessels. Please note: All permits issued will be valid for the entire fishing year. A vessel owner has 45 days from the first effective date of his/her permit within a permit year to make a change to the permit category. **Further restrictions may apply to specific categories. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.**

2	Full-Time*
3	Part-Time*
4	Occasional
5	Full-Time - Small Dredge*: Category 3 (Part-Time) vessel may elect this category for the entire year. May fish for scallops using one dredge no larger than 10.5 ft. and a crew no larger than five.
6	Part-Time - Small Dredge*: Category 4 (Occasional) vessel may elect this category for the entire year. May fish for scallops using one dredge no larger than 10.5 ft. and a crew no larger than five.
7	Full-Time - Authorized to use trawl nets*
8	Part-Time - Authorized to use trawl nets*
9	Occasional - Authorized to use trawl nets

*Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) required to be installed and in continuous operation onboard the vessel.

NORTHEAST MULTISPECIES

Regulated species: Cod, haddock, yellowtail flounder, pollock, redfish (ocean perch), winter flounder (blackback), American plaice (dab), witch flounder (grey sole), windowpane flounder (sand dab) and white hake

Other multispecies: Silver hake (whiting), red hake (ling), offshore hake, white hake, ocean pout, and Atlantic halibut (vessels may land or possess on board no more than one Atlantic halibut per trip of at least 36 inches)

Limited Access Permits: These permits may only be renewed by vessels that have previously held them or be issued only to approved replacements of such vessels. Please note: All permits issued will be valid for the entire fishing year. A vessel owner has 45 days from the first effective date of his/her permit within a permit year to make a change to the permit category. **Further restrictions may apply to specific categories. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.**

Multispecies Continued.

A	Individual DAS
B	Fleet DAS
C	Small Vessel Exemption: (less than or equal to 30 feet)
D	Hook Gear: (Vessels in this category may not change category)
E	Combination Vessels: (Vessels in this category may not change category)
F	Large Mesh Individual DAS: Category A (Individual DAS) or E (Combination) vessels may elect this category for the entire year. The DAS allocation for vessels fishing under this permit category will be equivalent to their used DAS baseline plus a 36% increase. These vessels must fish with either gillnets or trawl nets having a minimum of 8.5-inch square or diamond mesh when fishing in the Gulf of Maine, Georges Bank, or Southern New England Regulated Mesh Areas, and 7.5-inch diamond or 8.0-inch square mesh when fishing in the Mid-Atlantic Regulated Mesh Area.
G	Large Mesh Fleet DAS: Category B (Fleet DAS) vessels may elect this category for the entire year. The DAS allocation for vessels fishing under this permit category will be equivalent to their used DAS baseline plus a 36% increase. These vessels must fish with either gillnets or trawl nets having a minimum of 8.5-inch square or diamond mesh when fishing in the Gulf of Maine, Georges Bank, or Southern New England Regulated Mesh Areas, and 7.5-inch diamond or 8.0-inch square mesh when fishing in the Mid-Atlantic Regulated Mesh Area.

For information on Area Declaration/Letters of Authorization, see page 13, appendix A.

Open Access Permits: Further restrictions may apply to specific categories. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

H	Handgear: Beginning August 1, 2002, this permit will not be issued to any vessel that has not previously held it, or to vessels whose owner(s) did not submit a complete application for this permit by August 1, 2002. This rule will be in effect for the duration of the interim final rule. The vessel may possess and land up to 200 lbs combined weight of cod, haddock, and yellowtail flounder, one Atlantic halibut of at least 36 inches in size, and unlimited amounts of other Northeast multispecies, provided that only rod and reel or handline gear is used or possessed on the vessel while in possession of, fishing for, or landing Northeast multispecies, and provided that there is at least one standard tote on board. A standard tote is a box designed to hold 100 lbs of fish plus ice and that has a liquid capacity of 70 L, or a volume of not more than 4,320 cubic inches.
I	Charter/Party: May possess and land multispecies in the EEZ when carrying passengers for hire. (See Section 5 for additional information.)
J	Scallop Multispecies Possession Limit: May possess and land up to 300 lbs of regulated species while fishing under a scallop DAS. Vessel must have a Limited Access Scallop Permit to qualify for this category.
K	Open Access Multispecies: May fish for silver hake (whiting), red hake (ling), offshore hake, ocean pout, or Atlantic halibut (vessels may land or possess on board no more than one Atlantic halibut per trip, at least 36 inches) when participating in an exempted fishing program.

MONKFISH

Limited Access Permits: These permits may only be renewed by vessels that have previously held them, or to approved replacements of such vessels. **Further restrictions may apply to specific categories. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.**

A	Vessels that were issued permits in this category in the previous fishing year and do not possess a limited access multispecies permit or a limited access scallop permit that landed at least 50,000 lbs tail-weight or 166,000 lbs whole weight of monkfish during the monkfish qualification period.*
B	Vessels that were issued permits in this category in the previous fishing year and do not possess a limited access multispecies permit or a limited access scallop permit that are less than 51 Gross Registered Tons (GRT) and do not qualify for a Category A permit. Vessels under this category must have landed at least 7,500 lbs tail-weight or 24,900 lbs whole weight of monkfish during the monkfish qualification period.*
C	Vessels that were issued permits in this category in the previous fishing year and also possess a limited access multispecies permit or a limited access scallop permit that landed at least 50,000 lbs tail-weight or 166,000 lbs whole weight of monkfish during the monkfish qualification period.*
D	Vessels that were issued permits in this category in the previous fishing year and also possess a limited access multispecies permit or a limited access scallop permit that do not qualify for a Category C permit. Limited access scallop vessels must be less than 51 Gross Registered Tons (GRT) to be eligible. Vessels under this category must have landed at least 7,500 lbs tail-weight or 24,900 lbs whole weight of monkfish during the monkfish qualification period.*

*** Monkfish Qualification Period: February 28, 1991 through February 27, 1995**

Area Declaration: Please note that vessels fishing exclusively in the Northern Fishery Management Area for monkfish may also request a Southern Fishery Management Area Exemption Certificate. Contact Permits Operations at 978-281-9370.

Open Access Permit: This permit may be issued to any vessel not issued a monkfish limited access permit—to fish for, possess, or land monkfish. **Further restrictions may apply to this category. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.**

E	<u>Incidental Catch:</u> Allows a vessel to possess and land a limited amount of monkfish, depending on fishing year, area fished, and gear fished. For specific limit amounts, contact the Fisheries Information Line at 978-281-9278.
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SURF CLAM/OCEAN QUAHOG

Open Access Permits: Further restrictions may apply to specific categories. Refer to Northeast Fishery Regulations.

1	Surfclam: May harvest surfclams.*
6	Ocean Quahog: May harvest ocean quahogs.*

* To harvest and land surfclams or ocean quahogs from the EEZ, an allocation of quota is required. For more information call 978-281-9278.

Limited Access Permit: This permit may only be renewed by vessels that have previously held it or be issued only to approved replacements of such vessels. **Further restrictions may apply to this category. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.**

7	Maine Mahogany Quahog: May harvest ocean quahogs without an allocation from the EEZ in the area north of latitude 43 degrees 50 minutes N.
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SUMMER FLOUNDER (FLUKE)

Limited Access Permit: This permit may only be renewed by vessels that have previously held it or be issued only to approved replacements of such vessels. **Further restrictions may apply to this category. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.**

1	Commercial Moratorium
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Open Access Permit: Further restrictions may apply to this category. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

2	Charter/Party: May fish for or possess summer flounder in the EEZ while carrying passengers for hire. (See Section 5 for additional information.)
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SCUP (PORGY)

Limited Access Permit: This permit may only be renewed by vessels that have previously held it or be issued only to approved replacements of such vessels. **Further restrictions may apply to this category. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.**

1	Scup Moratorium
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Open Access Permit: Further restrictions may apply to this category. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

2	Charter/Party: May fish for or possess scup in the EEZ while carrying passengers for hire. (See Section 5 for additional information.)
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BLACK SEA BASS

Limited Access Permit: This permit may only be renewed by vessels that have previously held it or be issued only to approved replacements of such vessels. **Further restrictions may apply to this category. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.**

1	<u>Black Sea Bass Moratorium:</u> May fish commercially in the EEZ north of 35 degrees 15.3 minutes N latitude during open season, subject to trip limits.
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Open Access Permit: Further restrictions may apply to this category. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

2	<u>Charter/Party:</u> May fish for or possess black sea bass in the EEZ north of 35 degrees 15.3 minutes N. latitude while carrying passengers for hire. (See Section 5 for additional information.)
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SQUID, MACKERAL, AND BUTTERFISH

Limited Access Permits: These permits may only be renewed by vessels that have previously held them or be issued only to approved replacements of such vessels. **Further restrictions may apply to specific categories. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.**

1	<u>Loligo/Butterfish Moratorium</u>
5	<u>Illex Squid Moratorium</u>

Open Access Permits: Further restrictions may apply to specific categories. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

2	<u>Squid/Mackerel/Butterfish Charter/Party:</u> May fish for or possess Loligo or Illex squid, or butterfish in the EEZ while carrying passengers for hire. (See Section 5 for additional information.)
3	<u>Squid/Butterfish Incidental Catch:</u> May fish commercially in the EEZ for up to 2,500 lbs of Loligo squid or butterfish and 5,000 lbs of Illex squid per trip.
4	<u>Atlantic Mackerel:</u> May commercially fish for Atlantic mackerel in the EEZ.

SPINY DOGFISH

Open Access Permit: Further restrictions may apply to this category. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

1	<u>General:</u> May commercially fish for, possess, or land spiny dogfish caught in or from the EEZ.
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ATLANTIC BLUEFISH

Open Access Permits: Further restrictions may apply to specific categories. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

1	<u>Commercial:</u> May possess or harvest Atlantic bluefish from the EEZ in excess of the daily possession limit.
2	<u>Charter/Party:</u> May fish for or possess Atlantic bluefish from the EEZ while carrying passengers for hire. (See Section 5 for additional information.)

ATLANTIC HERRING

Open Access Permits: Further restrictions may apply to specific categories. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

1	For vessels that caught more than 500 mt of Atlantic herring in the last calendar year or intend to catch more than 500 mt of Atlantic herring during this calendar year. An operational Vessel Monitoring System is required to be onboard the vessel for this category. (See Section 5 for additional information.)
2	For vessels that did not catch more than 500 mt of Atlantic herring in the previous calendar year or will not catch more than 500 mt of Atlantic herring during the current calendar year.

TILEFISH

Limited Access Permits: These permits may only be renewed by vessels that have previously held them or be issued only to approved replacements of such vessels. **Further restrictions may apply to specific categories. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations. Note: For all tilefish limited access permit categories (A-C), the only allowable gear is longline gear (Code 920).**

A	<u>Full-time tier 1:</u> To fish commercially for, possess, or land tilefish in or from the EEZ. This category is allocated 66 percent of the total allowable landings (TAL), after being reduced 5 percent to adjust for the incidental catch. To qualify, the vessel must have landed at least 250,000 lbs of tilefish per year for any 3 years between 1993 and 1998, at least 1 lb of which was landed prior to June 15, 1993.
B	<u>Full-time tier 2:</u> To fish commercially for, possess, or land tilefish in or from the EEZ. This category is allocated 15 percent of the total allowable landings (TAL), after being reduced 5 percent to adjust for the incidental catch. To qualify, the vessel must have landed at least 30,000 lbs of tilefish per year for any of 3 years between 1993 and 1998, at least 1 lb of which was landed prior to June 15, 1993.
C	<u>Part-time:</u> To fish commercially for, possess, or land tilefish in or from the EEZ. This category is allocated 19 percent of the total allowable landings (TAL), after being reduced 5 percent to adjust for the incidental catch. To qualify, the vessel must have landed 10,000 lbs of tilefish in any 1 year between 1988 and 1993 and 10,000 lbs in any 1 year between 1994 and 1998, or landed 28,000 lbs of tilefish in any 1 year between 1984 and 1993.

Tilefish continued.

Open Access Permit: This permit may be issued to any vessel not issued a tilefish limited access permit—to fish for, possess, or land tilefish in or from the EEZ. **Further restrictions may apply to this category. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.**

D	Incidental Catch: A vessel may possess or land tilefish in or from the EEZ up to 300 lbs per trip.
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AMERICAN LOBSTER

Limited Access Permits: These permits may only be renewed by vessels that have previously held them or be issued only to approved replacements of such vessels. If eligible, you may select more than one category. **Further restrictions may apply to specific categories. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.**

1	Commercial – Non-Trap: May harvest lobster in the EEZ without using traps/pots (gear 800).
2	Charter/Party – Non-Trap: May harvest lobster in the EEZ without using traps/pots (gear 800).
A1	<u>Commercial – Trap Gear Area 1:</u> May harvest lobster using gear 800 (pots/traps) in Federal Lobster Management Area 1.
A2	<u>Commercial – Trap Gear Area 2:</u> May harvest lobster using gear 800 (pots/traps) in Federal Lobster Management Area 2. Must also select Federal Lobster Management Area 2/3 Overlap to be eligible for this category
A23	<u>Commercial – Trap Gear Area 2/3 Overlap:</u> May harvest lobster using gear 800 (pots/traps) in Federal Lobster Management Area 2/3 Overlap. (You must also select Area 2, Area 3, or both areas to be issued this category.)
A3	<u>Commercial – Trap Gear Area 3:</u> May harvest lobster using gear 800 (pots/traps) in Federal Lobster Management Area 3. Must also select Federal Lobster Management Area 2/3 Overlap to be eligible for this category
A4	<u>Commercial – Trap Gear Area 4:</u> May harvest lobster using gear 800 (pots/traps) in Federal Lobster Management Area 4.
A5	<u>Commercial – Trap Gear Area 5:</u> May harvest lobster using gear 800 (pots/traps) in Federal Lobster Management Area 5.
A6	<u>Commercial – Trap Gear Area 6:</u> May harvest lobster using gear 800 (pots/traps) in Federal Lobster Management Area 6. Vessel owner must possess a valid CT or NY state lobster license to be eligible for this category.
AOC	<u>Commercial – Trap Gear Outer Cape Area:</u> May harvest lobster using gear 800 (pots/traps) in Federal Lobster Management Outer Cape Area.

ATLANTIC DEEP-SEA RED CRAB

Limited Access Permits: These permits may only be renewed by vessels that have previously held them or be issued only to approved replacements of such vessels. **Further restrictions may apply to specific categories. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.** **Note:** For both red crab limited access permit categories (B and C), the only allowable gear is pot/trap gear (Code 800).

B	Must demonstrate average Atlantic Deep-Sea Red Crab landings greater than 250,000 lbs per year during the 3-year period of March 1, 1997 through February 29, 2000. Vessels in this category will be subject to a baseline trip limit of 75,000 lbs.
C	Must demonstrate average Atlantic Deep-Sea Red Crab landings greater than 250,000 lbs per year and documented proof of one trip with landings higher than 75,000 lbs during the 3-year period of March 1, 1997 through February 29, 2000. Upon demonstrating proof of a trip with landings higher than 75,000 lbs, the vessel then qualifies for a trip limit equal to the larger trip, rounded to the nearest 5,000 lbs.

Open Access Permit: This permit may be issued to any vessel not issued a red crab limited access permit—to fish for, possess, or land red crab in or from the EEZ. **Further restrictions may apply to this category. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.**

A	May possess or land red crab in or from the EEZ up to 500 lbs per trip.
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SKATE

NORTHEAST SKATE COMPLEX (SKATE)

The following species of skates comprise the NE skate complex and are included under the Federal skate permit: winter skate; barndoor skate; thorny skate; smooth skate; little skate; clearnose skate; and rosette skate.

Open Access Permit: Further restrictions may apply to this category. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

1	General: May commercially fish for, possess, or land skate caught in or from the EEZ.
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SECTION 4: APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS & OWNER'S SIGNATURE

Please sign and date the form. Unsigned, or otherwise incomplete applications, will be returned. Your signature is an affirmation, under penalty of perjury, that all the information provided in obtaining this permit is true and correct. Submitting false information in connection with an application could subject you to criminal/civil penalties or permit sanctions.

SECTION 5: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

1. CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION, PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT OR ANNUAL REPORTS:

If the vessel is owned by a corporation or a partnership, the following information must be submitted with the application form:

- A copy of the Certificate of Incorporation must be submitted once. Each year, documents showing current corporate status and all officers and shareholders owning 25% or more of the shares in the corporation must be submitted.
- The list of corporate officers and shareholders must include their addresses (examples of acceptable documentation include Minutes from the Corporation Annual Meeting listing the names and addresses of the officers and stockholders, or a signed and dated letter from a Corporate Officer listing the names and addresses of current officers and stockholders).
- Partnerships must submit a copy of the partnership agreement once. Each year, the names and addresses of all partners must be submitted.

2. SCALLOP VESSELS OWNED:

If you are renewing a limited access sea scallop permit, you must attach a list of the following information for all vessels in which you have an ownership interest and that hold limited access sea scallop permits.

- Owner names—not Business or Corporate names.
- Vessel names and permit numbers.

3. USCG DOCUMENTATION:

A copy of the vessel's current US Coast Guard Documentation, or, if undocumented, a copy of the vessel's current State Registration.

4. CHARTER/PARTY PERMIT:

If you hold, or are applying for, a charter/party permit, you must submit a copy of the vessel's current charter/party license. A copy of one of the following documents is acceptable:

- Current state license showing the vessel is authorized to carry charter/party passengers.
- Current US Coast Guard Documentation that shows the vessel is presently documented for "Coastwise".
- Current US Coast Guard license to operate or navigate passenger carrying vessels.

5. ATLANTIC HERRING FISHERY:

If your vessel caught more than 500 mt of Atlantic herring in the previous fishing year, or if your vessel intends to catch more than 500 mt of Atlantic herring during the current fishing year, please include a statement so stating and attach a copy of a vendor installation receipt from a NMFS-approved Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) vendor, as described in Section 648.9 of the regulations for the Fisheries of the Northeastern United States.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining data needed, and completing & reviewing the information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or suggestions for reducing this burden to: National Marine Fisheries Service, Permit Office, 1 Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298. The Paperwork Reduction Act requires that potential respondents for a fishing vessel permit be notified of certain information regarding their rights and the burden associated with applying for Federal fisheries permits. One of the regulatory steps taken by the National Marine Fisheries Service to carry out its conservation and management objectives is the requirement of a permit for users of the resources. All the fisheries included on this application require a permit to fish for or retain these species in or from the EEZ, Section 303 (b)(1) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSFCMA) specifically recognizes the need for permit issuance. The purpose and use of these permits are to: (1) register industry participants and fishing vessels, (2) list the characteristics of fishing vessels, (3) exercise influence over compliance, (4) provide a mailing list for the dissemination of important information to the industry, (5) register participants to be considered for limited entry, and (6) provide a universe for data collection samples. Both the MSFCMA and Executive Orders 12866 et al. require the determination of this information. Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. Any information submitted by any person to obtain a permit is not confidential, and may be disclosed upon request.

APPENDIX A: AREA DECLARATION / LETTERS OF AUTHORIZATION

Area Declaration: Please note that vessels fishing exclusively south of the Gulf of Maine (GOM) may request a **Gulf of Maine Cod Trip Limit Exemption Authorization**. Contact the Permit Office at 978-281-9370.

Exemption Authorization From the Monkfish Southern Fishery Management Area Landing Limit and Minimum Fish Size: Vessels fishing exclusively for monkfish within the Northern Fishery Management Area (NFMA) may request this Letter of Authorization by calling Permits Operations at 978-281-9370.

Yellowtail Flounder Possession Authorization: New regulations that became effective August 1, 2002, prohibit the possession or landing of yellowtail flounder in or from the Southern New England and Mid-Atlantic Regulated Mesh Areas south of 40 degrees 00 minutes N. lat. As a result, any vessel that wishes to possess or land yellowtail flounder from the Regulated Mesh Areas north of 40 degrees 00 minutes N. lat. must obtain one of the following Yellowtail Flounder Possession/Landing Letters of Authorization for a minimum of 30 consecutive days.

Gulf of Maine and Georges Bank Yellowtail Flounder Possession/Landing Authorization:

Vessels that fish any portion of a trip under a Northeast multispecies DAS in the Gulf of Maine or Georges Bank Regulated Mesh Areas north of 40 degrees 00 minutes N. lat. are not subject to a possession limit. Vessels that participate in this exemption program may not fish outside the Gulf of Maine and Georges Bank Regulated Mesh Areas while participating in this authorization program, and fishing under a Northeast multispecies DAS, except for transiting purposes provided all gear is stowed according to the regulations.

Southern New England and Mid-Atlantic Yellowtail Flounder Possession/Landing

Authorization: Vessels that fish any portion of a trip under a Northeast multispecies DAS in the Southern New England or Mid-Atlantic Regulated Mesh Areas north of 40 degrees 00 minutes N. lat. are subject to the trip limits specified below. Vessels that participate in this exemption program may not fish outside the Southern New England or Mid-Atlantic Regulated Mesh Areas north of 40 degrees 00 minutes N. lat. while participating in this authorization program, and fishing under an NE multispecies DAS, except for transiting purposes provided all gear is stowed according to the regulations.

- March 1 through May 31: A possession and landing limit of 250 lbs of yellowtail per trip.
- June 1 through February 28: A possession and landing limit of 750 lbs of yellowtail flounder per day and 3,000 lbs per trip.

Skate - BAIT-ONLY Exemption Program: A vessel owner/operator issued a Federal skate permit may request and receive from the Regional Administrator an exemption from the skate wing possession limits, in the form of a Letter of Authorization (LOA), provided:

- (1) the LOA recipient possesses and/or lands only whole skates less than 23 inches total length for use as bait only;
- (2) the LOA recipient complies with the transfer at sea provisions; and
- (3) the LOA recipient remains in the exemption program for at least 30 days.

To enroll and/or withdraw from the exemption program, call the permit office at (978) 281-9370.

The skate wing possession limits apply to vessels that fish for skate wings and/or any combination of skate wings and whole skates.

9/22/03 Initial Instructions



MONTH : _____ YEAR : _____

Section 1 - VESSEL/OWNER INFORMATION

Vessel Name: _____
Owner Name: _____
Street Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Owner Telephone: _____
CG Documentation or State Registration Number: _____
Hailing Port: _____
Principal Port: _____

Section 2 - VESSEL INFORMATION

Vessel Length: _____	Dredge Size: _____
Crew Size: _____	Number of Dredges: _____
Gross Tonnage: _____	Pump Horsepower _____
Year Built: _____	Construction: _____
Main Engine HP: _____	Propulsion: _____
Fish Hold Capacity: _____	No. Passengers for Charter or Party: _____

Section 3 - FISHERY INFORMATION

Fishery	Category	Gear(s)
Sea Scallops	_____	
Skate	_____	
NE Multispecies	_____	
Monkfish	_____	
Surfclam	_____	
Ocean Quahog	_____	
Summer Flounder	_____	
Scup	_____	
Black Sea Bass	_____	
Squid/Mack/Butterfish	_____	
Spiny Dogfish	_____	
Atlantic Bluefish	_____	
Atlantic Herring	_____	
American Lobster	_____	
Tilefish	_____	
Atlantic Deep-Sea Red Crab	_____	_____

Section 4 - OWNER'S SIGNATURE

I, the undersigned, am the owner or legally authorized agent of the owner of the vessel named in Section 1 above. I affirm, subject to the penalties provided in 18 USC 1001, that all information I have given in obtaining this permit is true and correct.

Previously permitted vessel permit # _____ Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

08.30.03 Date: _____

OMB# 0648-0202 EXP 03-31-2004